

## WESTERN HEMLOCK-WHITE FIR/VINE MAPLE-DWARF OREGONGRAPE

*Tsuga heterophylla*-*Abies concolor*/*Acer circinatum*-*Berberis nervosa*

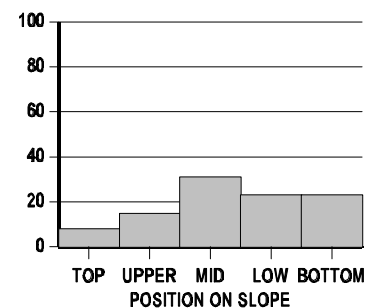
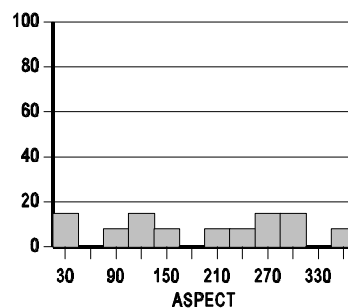
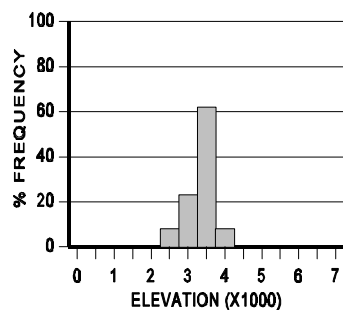
TSHE-ABCO/ACCI-BENE2 (N=13; FS=13)



Distribution. This Association is located on the Butte Falls and Prospect Ranger Districts, Rogue River National Forest and on the Diamond Lake Ranger District, Umpqua National Forest.

Distinguishing Characteristics. This is a cool, high elevation plant association. Neither salal, slender salal, nor Pacific rhododendron are present.

Soils. Parent material is most commonly andesite, although basalt, diorite, pumice, ash, and tephra occur occasionally. Based on five plots sampled, soils are moderately deep and well to somewhat excessively well drained. Surface textures are loams and sands, with 5 to 40 percent rock fragments and 3 to 17 percent clay. Subsurface textures are sandy loams and silt loams with 2 to 40 percent rock fragments. The soil moisture regime is probably xeric and the soil temperature



regime can be mesic or frigid. Soils classify into the following subgroups: Typic Xerumbrepts, Typic Xerorthents, and Typic Xeropsamments.

Environment. This Association averages 3500 feet in elevation and aspect is highly variable. Slope averages 28 percent and ranges from 2 to 60 percent. Occurrence is most often on middle to lower slopes and valley bottoms

Vegetation Composition and Structure. Total species richness is very high for the Series, averaging 37 species. The overstory is dominated by Douglas-fir and white fir is encountered on most plots. Sugar pine is common. The understory contains western hemlock and white fir. Incense-cedar is common and Pacific yew frequent. In some areas hardwoods are abundant; for example, vine maple can be very dense. Pacific dogwood is frequent, and golden chinquapin is commonly encountered. The shrub layer is dominated by dwarf Oregongrape. California hazel, baldhip rose, and Pacific blackberry are frequently encountered. Western twinflower can reach up to 30 percent cover in the herb layer. Moss cover averages 10 percent.

Upper layer tree cover is intermediate for the Series averaging 67 percent, mid-layer cover, 49 percent, and lower layer tree cover, 32 percent. High shrub and low shrub covers are intermediate for the Series, averaging 23 and 43 percent, respectively. Total herb/grass cover averages 32 percent.

Common name	Code	Constancy	Cover	Avg. Richness
<u>Overstory trees</u>				4
Douglas-fir	PSME	100	46	
White fir	ABCO	92	9	
Western hemlock	TSHE	77	4	
Sugar pine	PILA	62	4	
<u>Understory trees</u>				7
Western hemlock	TSHE	100	27	
White fir	ABCO	100	11	
Douglas-fir	PSME	100	4	
Pacific yew	TABR2	92	8	
Pacific dogwood	CONU4	85	4	
Incense-cedar	CADE27	77	4	
Golden chinquapin	CACH6	69	10	
<u>Shrubs</u>				10
Dwarf Oregongrape	BENE2	100	19	
Pacific blackberry	RUUR	92	5	
Baldhip rose	ROGY	92	1	
California hazel	COCOC	85	6	
Creeping snowberry	SYMO	77	2	
<u>Herbs</u>				19
Western twinflower	LIBOL	100	11	
Common prince's-pine	CHUM	100	7	
Rattlesnake-plantain	GOOB2	85	1	
Threeleaf anemone	ANDE3	77	1	
Oregon fairybell	DIHOO	77	1	
Whitevein pyrola	PYPI2	77	1	
Western starflower	TRLA6	77	1	